



Friday  
August 19,  
2011

# Weekly Views

New college scholarships are available for staff and their families through the Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana (CPAFI). Seven scholarships are available, including the \$4,000 Commissioner's Scholarship, which is the largest one ever given by the CPAFI. For more information or to apply, visit [www.cpaifi.org](http://www.cpaifi.org). Don't delay... deadline for application submission is September 6, 2011.

PEN Products' Digital License Plate Shop is going green! PEN Products changed their process to reuse the slip sheeting (laminated backing) instead of utilizing new plastic bags to protect the license plate during shipment. Reclaiming the previously discarded laminated backing while piloting a process to ensure high quality will prevent over 9 million bags or 54,000 lbs of plastic bags from going into landfills in the next three years.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility has initiated steps to slowly come off lockdown status and return to normal operation. The facility has developed a process for getting eligible offenders back to work and regular visitation will resume on Monday August 22, 2011.

The Indiana Women's Prison PLUS Program held a welcome picnic for twelve new program participants. There was food and games such as water balloon toss and wiffle ball. The new PLUS offenders indicated they are looking forward to challenging themselves in a positive manner while in the program.

Branchville Correctional Facility presented a check for over \$750 to the Perry County Department of Child Services office. The money will be used to send 19 underprivileged children to Holiday World, a local amusement park. The money was raised through offender fundraisers operated out of A-Dormitory.



Wabash Valley Correctional Facility staff not only enjoyed being part of the first ever Sullivan County Night Out at the City Park, but they also got to pass out Indiana Department of Correction ALERT notification service flyers. The Wabash display featured an offender transport vehicle and fire department emergency truck, and an unidentified young lady who tried on a WVCF fire suit. Over 2000 people attended the event. (see photo above)

With 28 registered team members, the Department of Correction was awarded third place in team participation in the Race Away from Domestic Violence, in sponsorship of the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The majority of participants came from Central Office, followed by Pendleton Juvenile and IREF. Other facilities represented were Edinburgh, Logansport Juvenile, PEN Products, the parole board, and Corizon. Everyone had a great time and we look forward to participating again next year.

Two case managers at the Westville Correctional Facility have successfully presented the facility's first Thinking for a Change (T4C) 3.0 class. The offenders, all with less than nine months to their EPRD, graduated from the 13 week class and will be considered for a 30-day time cut from the newly designed, stand alone program. The offender graduates celebrated with soda and popcorn, provided by the Recreation Department, while watching the 1985 movie, "The Breakfast Club". Lessons within the T4C program make reference to the movie.



Miami Correctional Facility hosted a Gospel Echoes Freedom Rally with more than 170 volunteers coming into the facility. The event began with evening worship services in the chapels and then volunteers cooked up a picnic lunch with hotdogs, hamburgers, potato salad, chips and a whoopie pie for dessert. The meal was given out to nearly all 3,188 offenders and all on-duty staff. This is the seventh year the group has provided this meal for the facility. (see photo left)

The Indiana Women's Prison Sheltered Workshop staff and offenders raised \$120 at a yard sale. The proceeds will be shared by the Angels of East Africa Rescue Mission

and the Indianapolis Homeless ministry, which is operated by 12 Stone Fellowship. The women created & donated over 100 hand-crafted items, such as baby blankets, sweaters, shawls, hats, scarves and much more. Items that were not sold will be used for another sale next month.